Task-2

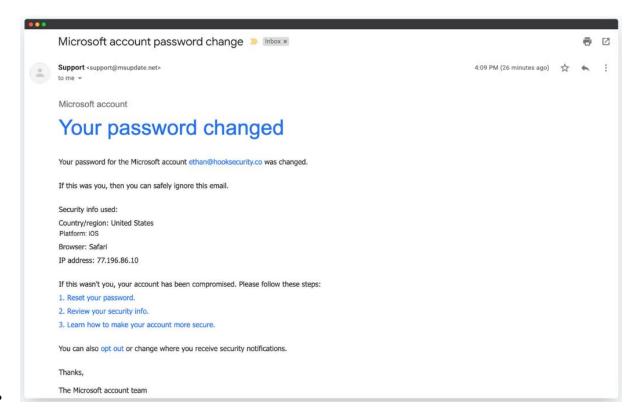


Objective:

Identify phishing characteristics in the suspicious email sample.

1. Sender's Email Address

Observed: support@msupdate.net



Analysis: Microsoft official emails usually come from @microsoft.com, not
@msupdate.net. This is a spoofed sender address — very suspicious.

2. Email Header Analysis

- Headers not provided directly, but based on visible content:
 - o The domain msupdate.net is unrelated to Microsoft → highly suspicious.



Legitimate Microsoft security emails always use official domains.

3. Suspicious Links

- Email contains multiple links:
 - Reset your password
 - o Review your security info
 - Learn how to make your account more secure

If this wasn't you, your account has been compromised. Please follow these steps:

- 1. Reset your password.
- 2. Review your security info.
- 3. Learn how to make your account more secure.
- Links in phishing emails often redirect to fake login pages to steal credentials.
- **Recommendation:** Hover links in a safe environment (e.g., sandbox or isolated VM) to check if they point to non-Microsoft domains.

4. Urgent or Threatening Language

- Email says:
 - "If this wasn't you, your account has been compromised..."

If this wasn't you, your account has been compromised. Please follow these steps:

○ Directly creates fear → classic phishing tactic.

5. Mismatched URLs

- While email text shows links pointing to supposed Microsoft actions, actual URLs behind them (not visible in screenshot) could lead to malicious websites.
- Real emails from Microsoft have verified *.microsoft.com URLs.

6. Spelling & Grammar Errors

 This email appears mostly grammatically correct → but this alone doesn't confirm legitimacy, since many phishing emails can have perfect grammar to appear more convincing.

7. Additional Observations

- The message tries to prompt **immediate action** another sign of phishing.
- The sender uses a domain (msupdate.net) trying to look like Microsoft by including "ms" but isn't legitimate.



• Real Microsoft security emails typically include personalized details like your name and partially masked account info; here it's missing.

8. Summary of Phishing Traits

- **Spoofed sender domain**: msupdate.net is not owned by Microsoft.
- Urgent language: Creates fear to force quick action.
- Suspicious links: Links likely redirect to phishing sites.
- **Generic salutation**: Email doesn't use recipient's name → typical phishing sign.

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